

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 8-13 are in the application and have been amended. The Abstract has been amended. Claims 2, 5-7 and 14 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to the Abstract. Applicants attach herewith a new Abstract.

The Examiner objected to the claims for various informalities, and rejected claims 1, 2 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. 112 for indefiniteness. Applicants have amended the claims to overcome the Examiner's rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dickmann et al.* in view of *Field et al.* Claims 3, 4 and 6 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Dickmann* and *Field* and further in view of *Gobbels et al.* Claim 5 is rejected over *Dickmann* and *Field* and

further in view of *Gohrbandt et al.* Claim 7 is rejected over *Dickmann, Field* and *Gobbels* and further in view of *Fuganti et al.* Claim 14 is rejected over *Dickmann* and *Field* and further in view of *Nakamura et al.* Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the elements of claim 2, now canceled. Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify that the sleeve has a flattened region over its entire axial length. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and drawings, for example on page 2, and in FIG. 7. Claim 1 as originally filed in the PCT application recited "flattened region." The change in the national stage application to the term "roughened" was due to an incorrect translation of the term "abgeflachten" in claim 1. This has now been corrected.

The present application therefore differs from *Dickmann*, in that the flattened region of the present invention allows for arranging multiple cylinder sleeves in a space-saving manner. The cylinder sleeve according to *Dickmann* does not have a flattened region and does not demonstrate this advantage.

Furthermore, the Examiner states that *Field* ('652) has "...at least one projection having at least one undercut..." It is true that *Field* discloses a "projection" 112, but this "projection" does not have an "undercut." Furthermore, *Field* fails to disclose the claimed flattened region as well. Accordingly, claim 1 is not obvious over *Dickmann* and *Field*.

Regarding claim 8, the Examiner states that *Field* ('652) discloses the characteristic of the original claim 8, "...one flattened region is provided with a step (53) having a flattened region (54)..." However, the crosspiece 112 of *Field* does not have a flattened region, but rather is configured in continuous manner between the cylinder sleeves.

Since the original claims 9 to 13 depend from claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable over the cited references as well.

The Examiner states that *Göbbels*, in particular, anticipates the characteristic of claim 4, that the outer contour of the cylinder sleeve consists exclusively of four segments that

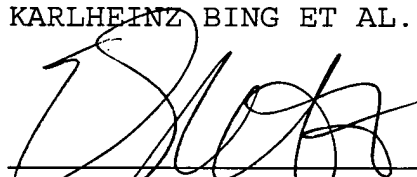
are arc-shaped in cross-section. However, the cylinder sleeve shown in Figure 5 of *Göbbels* consists of four arc-shaped and four planar segments. Technically and in terms of production, this is something completely different. It is impossible to form a space-saving sleeve assembly using a sleeve formed in this manner. The sleeve according to Figure 5 of *Göbbels* has a rectangular shape with rounded edges, in cross-section, and this brings with it a need for more space. However, it is the task of the present invention, among other things, to implement an arrangement of sleeves that saves space.

Claim 3 has been amended to include the elements of claim 7, now canceled. The Examiner states that claim 7, according to which the elliptical outside shape of the sleeve is implemented by means of a depth of the roughening that varies over the circumference, while maintaining a constant wall thickness, is anticipated by *Fuganti* (...086). However, paragraph [0019] of *Fuganti* must be interpreted, with regard to Figures 2, 3 and 4, to mean that the height of all the projections is the same, but that in the design of the sleeve, a height is selected that amounts to between 30% and 60% of the thickness "S" of the cylinder sleeve. Also, it is not evident that the sleeves

according to Figures 2, 3, and 4 of *Fuganti* have an elliptical outer shape, viewed in cross-section. Thus, amended claim 3, which includes the elements of original claim 7, is patentable as well.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-4 and 8-13 are patentable over the cited references, taken either singly or in combination. Early allowance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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